BOGGS DEMANDS THAT HOOVER QUIT

Accuses F.B.I. of Tapping Congressmen's Phones—Mitchell Denies Charge

By MARJORIE HUNTER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5—The House Democratic leader, Hale Boggs of Louisiana, called today for the resignation of J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I ask that Mr. Mitchell, the Attorney General of the United States, have the courage to ask for the resignation of this man," Mr. Boggs told the House.

He accused Mr. Hoover and the bureau of tapping the telephones of members of Congress and of stationing agents on campuses to spy on students and faculty members. He said these were "the tactics of the Soviet Union and Hitler's Gestapo."

[In Key Biscayne, Fla., where he is vacationing, Attorney General John N. Mitchell defended Mr. Hoover, denied the wiretapping charges and said Mr. Boggs should apologize, United Press International reported.]

Mr. Boggs did not elaborate on his wiretapping charges in his speech. An aide said later that the Democratic leader would stand by his statement but would not comment further.

A spokesman for the bureau promptly denied that the F.B.I. tapped the telephones of members of Congress.

Mr. Boggs is the second member of Congress to accuse the bureau publicly of tapping Congressional telephones.

At a political dinner March 19 in Denver, Senator Joseph M. Montoya, Democrat of New

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Boggs Demands Hoover Quit; Says Congress Is Wiretapped

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Mexico, said: "There is wiretapping on Capitol Hill of the telephones of Senators and Congressmen."

Senator Montoya was not available today for further comment. A spokesman in his office said that the Senator had said that it was "common talk and common belief" in the Senate cloakrooms that the telephones of "a good many Senators" had been tapped.

Several Echo Charge

Several members of Congress said privately today that they felt that their telephones had been tapped but that they could not prove it.

Mr. Boggs is the first member of the Democratic Congressional leadership to demand the resignation of the 76-year-old director of the bureau. However, other prominent Democrats, including two Presidential contenders, Senator George S. McGovern of South Dakota and Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, recently asked that Mr. Hoover resign.

The House had just convened when Mr. Boggs moved to the microphone today and, speaking without notes, leveled his charges against Mr. Hoover.

Speaker Carl Albert said later that Mr. Boggs had not discussed the matter with him before making the speech. The Speaker declined comment on whether he, too, felt that Mr. Hoover should step down.

But the Boggs charges drew immediate criticism from the House Republican leader, Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, who demanded that the majority leader present evidence to back up his accusations.

While the bureau "has made some mistakes," Mr. Ford said, its over-all history is a "fine one" and the nation "has been fortunate to have had the F.B.I. and Hoover as its head."

Spokesmen for the bureau have consistently denied that agents have been stationed on university and college campuses.

However, the F.B.I. just a year ago was granted authority by Congress to make campus investigations. The bureau was given money to hire additional agents and to investigate arson and disorders.

Documents stolen in early March from the bureau's Media, Pa., office included a Hoover memorandum of Nov. 4 ordering "an increase in both quality and quantity of intelligence information on black student unions and similar groups which are targets for influence and control by violence-prone Black Panther party and other extremists."

Special to The New York Times

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 5—Senator John V. Tunney, Democrat of California, drew applause from more than 300 college student leaders today when he declared: "We do not want an F.B.I. keeping dossiers on private citizens who are petitioning their Government."

Mr. Tunney was keynote speaker at the second annual Governors College Leadership Conference.

Associated Press

Representative Hale Boggs, Democratic House leader.

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